



Economic Development Commission
City of Long Beach, California

December 16, 2005

To: City of Long Beach
Planning and Building Department
Attn: Angela Reynolds
333 W. Ocean Blvd.
Long Beach, CA 90802

**Re: The Long Beach Airport Area Complex
DRAFT Environmental Impact Report No. 37-03**

Dear Ms. Reynolds:

Please accept this statement on behalf of the Long Beach Economic Development Commission, so that the Commission's position may be recorded in public comments regarding the Draft EIR for the Long Beach Airport. The role of the Long Beach Economic Development Commission is to advise and make recommendations to the City Council on matters affecting economic development within the City. The City of Long Beach Economic Development Commission recommends timely and immediate action to certify the Draft EIR.

The Long Beach Airport is an important and essential asset in sustaining the City's economic growth and viability. The Economic Impact Analysis published in April 2005 presented **persuasive** evidence that continued airport operations have substantial positive impact on the city's long-term business growth and workforce development. As this report concluded, the airport is a fundamental element of the City's employment base, producing over 16,000 jobs representing \$1.0 billion in earnings.

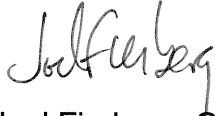
The Commission has reviewed the Draft Environmental Impact Report, including the detailed project impacts and mitigation measures presented. The report concludes that the Proposed Project "does not result in substantially greater impacts than the other build alternatives" and declares the proposed improvements as the "environmentally superior alternative."

December 16, 2006

Page 2

Due to the profound positive economic impact that airport operations have on the continued vitality of this City, the Economic Development Commission respectfully urges the City Council to act without further delay or impediments to the process to approve the EIR and move forward to improve and modernize the Long Beach Airport.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joel Fierberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Joel" and last name "Fierberg" clearly distinguishable.

Joel Fierberg, Chairman

City of Long Beach Economic Development Commission

cc: Gerald R. Miller, City Manager
Morton Stuhlbarg, Chair, Planning Commission
Robert Swayze, Economic Development Bureau Manager